CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for enabling E-commerce transactions

2 between a vendor and a consumer, the method

3 comprising the steps of:

4   providing a secured network that stores

5   consumer data and approved vendor

6   information;

7   receiving transaction information at the

8   secured network;

9   processing the transaction information to

10   determine whether the transaction

11   information conforms with the stored

12   consumer data and approved vendor

13   information; and

14   delivering the stored consumer data to the

15   vendor if the transaction information

16   is determined to conform with the

17   stored consumer data and approved

18   vendor information.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of

2   providing a secured network further comprises:

3   providing a virtual private network (VPN)

4   that enables secured communication of

5   the transaction information.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of

2   processing the transaction information to

3   determine whether the transaction information

4   conforms with the stored consumer data and

5   approved vendor information further comprises:

6   determining whether the transaction

7   information contains a consumer

8   identification indicator; and

9   determining whether the transaction

10   information contains a vendor

11   identification indicator.

1   4.   The method of claim 3, further comprising:

2   determining whether the consumer

3   identification indicator conforms with

4   the stored consumer data; and

5   determining   whether   the   vendor

6   identification indicator conforms with

7   the   stored   approved   vendor

8   information.

1   5.   An   apparatus   for   enabling   E-commerce

2   transactions between a vendor and a consumer,

3   the apparatus comprising:

4   a secured network that stores consumer data

5   and approved vendor information;

6   a   transaction   receiver   that   receives

7   transaction information at the secured

8   network;

9   a processor that processes the transaction

10   information to determine whether the

11   transaction information conforms with

12   the stored consumer data and approved

13   vendor information; and

14   a delivery module that delivers the stored

15   consumer data to the vendor if the

16   transaction information is determined

17   to conform with the stored consumer

18   data and approved vendor information.

1 6.   The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the secured

2   network further comprises:

3   a   virtual   private   network   (VPN)   that

4   enables   secured   communication   of   the

5   transaction information.

1 7.   The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the processor

2   further comprises:

3   a   consumer   identification   module   that

4   determines   whether   the   transaction

5   information   contains   a   consumer

6   identification indicator; and

7   a   vendor   identification   module   that

8   determines   whether   the   transaction

9   information   contains   a   vendor

10   identification indicator.

1 8.   The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the consumer

2   identification module further comprises

3   a first conformity module that determines

4   whether   the   consumer   identification

5   indicator conforms with the stored

6   consumer data; and

7   wherein the vendor identification module

8   further comprises

9   a second conformity module that determines

10   whether the vendor identification

11   indicator conforms with the stored

12   approved vendor information.